

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 7, please add the following paragraph after line 29 and before line 30:

PCT publication WO 98/43558 describes microstructures that can be used as biomedical implants. The biomedical implants can further comprise a biological material or pharmaceutical agent. More specifically, the biomedical implants have a density from about 25% to about 75% of the material's theoretical density. (By "theoretical density" is meant the density of a microbead having no pores.) The biomedical implant may comprise a microbead wherein the microbead comprises a wall that is essentially impermeable or porous to aqueous media. The biomedical implant may also comprise microbeads comprising holes, i.e., portals or channels.